1 2

34

5

6 7

8

10

1(

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2122

23

2425

26

27

28



## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

COLFIN AI-CA 5, LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

TAWANA CALDWELL, ANTHONY PAXTON, and ALL OCCUPANTS IN POSSESSION,

Defendants.

NO. CV 14-514 UA (DUTYx)

ORDER SUMMARILY REMANDING

IMPROPERLY-REMOVED ACTION

The Court summarily remands this unlawful detainer action to state court because defendant DERON DRUMMOND ("Defendant") removed it improperly.

On January 22, 2014, Defendant lodged a Notice Of Removal of an unlawful detainer action in California state court (filed on October 11, 2013), to this Court and also presented an application to proceed in forma pauperis. Although Defendant DERON DRUMMOND was not named as a defendant in the state court complaint, he filed a prejudgment claim of right to possession in connection with the

state court complaint on November 1, 2013. (See Notice, Exhs. A and B). The Court has denied the application to proceed in forma pauperis under separate cover because the action was not properly removed. To prevent the action from remaining in jurisdictional limbo, the Court issues this Order to remand the action to state court.

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

1

2

3

4

5

6

Simply stated, this action could not have been originally filed in federal court, because the complaint does not competently allege facts supplying either diversity or federal-question jurisdiction, and therefore removal is improper. 28 U.S.C. § 1441(a); see Exxon Mobil Corp v. Allapattah Svcs., Inc., 545 U.S. 546, 563 (2005). Defendant's notice of removal only asserts that removal is proper based upon federal question jurisdiction, alleging that the complaint was based on a defective notice under 12 U.S.C. § 5220. (Notice at 2). However, the underlying unlawful detainer action does not raise any federal legal question. Nor does it appear that federal law is a necessary element of any of plaintiff's claims. Moreover, "'the existence of a defense based upon federal law is insufficient to support federal-question jurisdiction.'" Hall v. North American Van Lines, Inc., 476 F.3d 683, 687 (9th Cir. 2007) (quoting Wayne v. DHL Worldwide Express, 294 F.3d 1179, 1183 (9th Cir. 2002). Finally, defendant has not alleged complete diversity of citizenship between the parties and has not established that the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. See 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a).

27

## $\phi$ ase 2:14-cv-00514-UA-DUTY Document 3 Filed 02/12/14 Page 3 of 3 Page ID #:17

Defendant is further notified and warned that any subsequent attempts to remove the underlying state unlawful detainer action to this Court will be improper and will constitute vexatious conduct that the Court will address by way of punitive remedial measures, which may include having defendant designated as a vexatious litigant and barred from commencing any further removal actions with respect to the underlying state unlawful detainer action.

Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that (1) this matter be REMANDED to the Superior Court of California, County Of Los Angeles, 275 Magnolia Avenue, Long Beach, California 90802, for lack of subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1447(c); (2) that the Clerk send a certified copy of this Order to the state court; and (3) that the Clerk serve copies of this Order on the parties.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED:

GEORGE H. KING

CHIEF UNITED STATES (DISTRICT JUDGE